

XV.—*Description of a new Species of Humming-bird, from Mr. Gould's Collection, belonging to the Genus Iolæma.* By D. G. ELLIOT, F.R.S.E. &c.

IOLÆMA LUMINOSA, Gould, MS.

Top of head and nape dull dark green: chin and sides of the throat black: centre of throat most brilliant topaz, changing, according to the light, into a flame-colour or a brilliant emerald-green: back bronzy green, graduating into a rich purplish red upon the upper tail-coverts: breast, flanks, and abdomen brilliant metallic coppery red: wings dark purple: tail has the median rectrices bronze; lateral ones dark purple, tinged with green upon the outer webs: under tail-coverts reddish bronze, margined with white: bill black; feet brownish black. Total length $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches; wing $2\frac{3}{4}$; tail 2; bill, culmen $\frac{1}{16}$, at gape 1.

Hab. Unknown.

This bird was placed in my hands some three or four years ago by a dealer in Paris, and then seemed to me to represent a very distinct species, specimens of which I had never previously seen. The late Jules Verreaux, to whom I showed it, thought it the same as his *Heliotrypha barali*; but the type of the latter, having since come into my possession, proves to be a very different bird, belonging to quite another genus. At the time the present specimen was in my custody the owner was not willing to part with it; but he subsequently sent it to London, and it eventually passed into Mr. Gould's hands, who gave it the MS. name *luminosa*. He has now kindly allowed me to describe it. The specimen had been in the dealer's possession for a very long time, even when I first saw it, when it was amongst a lot of Bogota birds. On my asking if he knew where the specimen came from, he replied that he thought from Ecuador. The skin, however, is of the usual Bogota "make." It certainly is one of the very finest members of the genus to which it belongs, and words can but faintly describe the brilliancy of the metallic hues with which its plumage is adorned.